

**SALVIA ACERIFOLIA (LAMIACEAE), A NEW SPECIES
FROM MICHOACAN, MEXICO**

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ABSTRACT

Routine identification of Mexican plants has revealed the following novelty:

SALVIA ACERIFOLIA B.L. Turner, *sp. nov.* **Fig. 1**

Salvia subhastatae Epling similes sed differt laminas subter glabris (vs minute glanduloso-pubescentibus) marginibus grosse dentatis (vs minute crenulatis), calycibus minoribus, et corollis lavandulaceis (vs luteis).

Perennial herbs to 1 m (?) high. **Stems** weakly 4-sided, if at all, with a vestiture of multiseptate crinkly trichomes 2-3 mm high. **Leaves** at mid-stem mostly 10-15 cm long; petioles 5-10 cm long; blades 6-8 cm long, 5-6 cm wide, glabrous beneath, sparsely pubescent above, deltoid-cordate, their margins irregularly broadly dentate. **Spikes** 10-20 cm long, interrupted, the axis pubescent like the stems. **Floral bracts** (uppermost) glabrous, broadly ovate, 6-9 mm long, 4-8 mm wide, readily deciduous. **Flowers** arranged 2 to a node, their pedicels mostly 5-7 mm long. **Calyx** (flowering) 8-10 mm long, pubescent like the stems, 2-lipped, the upper lip 5-veined, lower lip somewhat smaller, bifid. **Corolla** purple, 22-25 mm long; throats 9-12 mm long, not papillose within; lower lip ca 12 mm long, 8 mm wide, clearly 5-lobed; upper lip ca 4 mm long, sparsely pubescent (at the apex only). **Stamens** not excurrent, attached near the orifice; filaments ca 4 mm long; anthers yellow, ca 1.5 mm long. **Style** apically pilose; upper branches ca 1.3 mm long, the lower branches recurved or sigmoid, 2-3

times as long as the upper lobe. **Nutlets** ovoid, glabrous, ca 2.5 mm long, 1.6 mm wide.

TYPE: MEXICO. MICHOACAN: Mpio. Coahuayana, "Waterfall, roadside forest, 12.2 mi (19.9 km) W of turnoff to Villa Victoria; 26.2 mi (41.9 km) E of Coahuayana on road to Coalcoman." ca 880 m, 11 Sep 1985, *Clark P. Cowan 5646* (with Luckow, Kearns, Jacobson & T. Cowan). (Holotype: TEX; isotypes: CAS, F, GH, MEXU, US.)

The species is named for its leaves, which resemble those of the genus *Acer*. The collector himself, by annotation on the edge of a newspaper containing the holotype, noted that the species was probably new and, if so, that he intended to provide the name *S. longipetiolata*. The latter name would be reasonably applicable, but that provided here readily distinguishes the species from all other members of *Salvia* in Mexico.

I have not been able to position the species with any certainty in the sections erected by Epling (1939) but would provisionally include this within or near his monotypic sect. *Sphacelioides* (containing *S. subhastata* Epling), largely on the basis of habit and floral characters. It is likely that Epling would have positioned the species in a newly erected section, to judge from his published sectional categories, many of these monotypic or small, presumably erected to accommodate odd-ball or very distinct species, such as the present novelty.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LITERATURE CITED

Epling, C. 1939. A revision of *Salvia*: subgenus *Calosphace*. *Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Beih.* 110: 1-383.

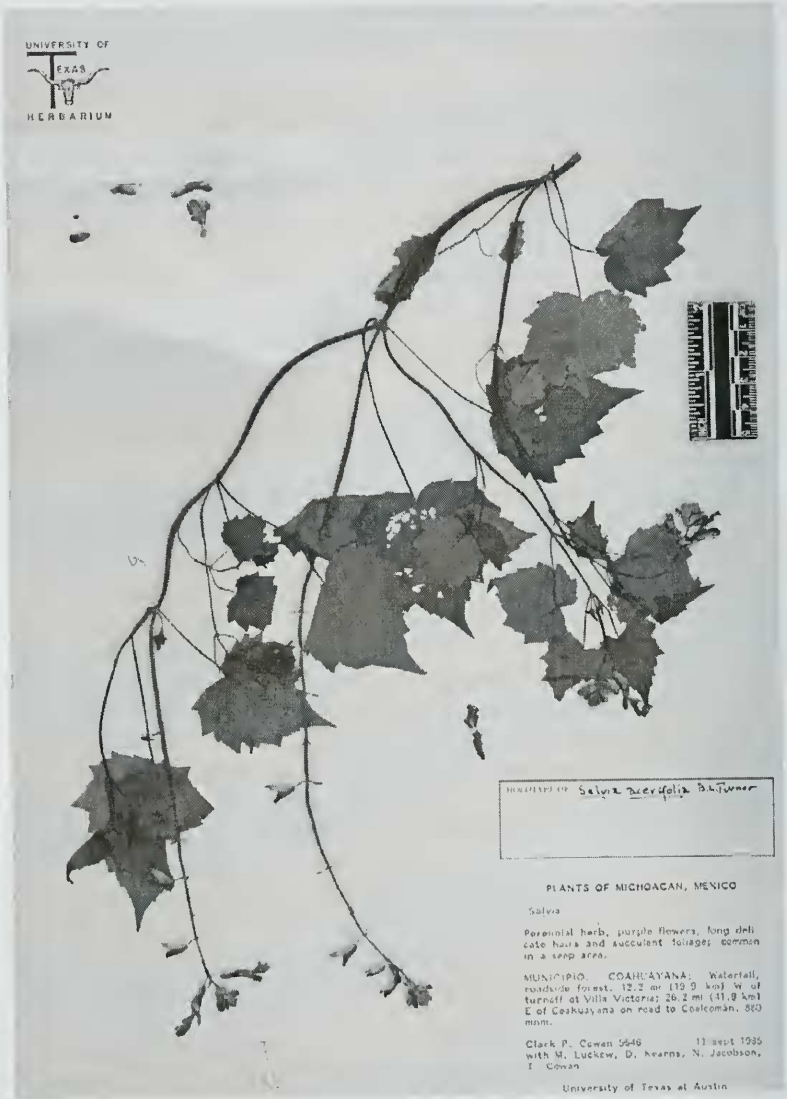


Fig. 1. *Salvia acerifolia* (holotype).